



HOKKAIDO UNIVERSITY'S

**Modern Japanese  
Studies Program**



DISCOVER  
**YOUR**  
JAPAN!

Intensive Japanese Course and Bachelor's Degree



**HOKKAIDO**  
UNIVERSITY



Sapporo Station



Ginkgo Avenue, Hokkaido University



Skiing in Kiroro

Hokkaido is the northernmost region of Japan, consisting of one large island and 509 surrounding islands. Dotting the center of the main island are mountain ranges and impressive volcanoes surrounded by sweeping coastal plains. The islands' total land mass is 83,000km<sup>2</sup> which makes up 22% of the total land mass of Japan. Hokkaido is known for its amazing food, natural beauty, world-class skiing resorts and unique history.

Hokkaido University is right in the center of Sapporo, Japan's fifth-largest city with a population of 1.9 million. You will never be short of options when it comes to eating out with friends, taking in Sapporo's vibrant cultural scene, or going out for a night on the town. Sapporo has something for everyone.

Today, Hokkaido has a population of 5.4 million people, but the region was only fully incorporated into Japan in the mid-nineteenth century. Hokkaido is the home of the indigenous Ainu people. As a place where various cultures meet, Hokkaido is an ideal location to consider issues of cultural diversity and multiculturalism in Japan, Asia and beyond.



© Rumiko Fujitani, 2013. Traditional Ainu pattern for Attus clothing.

## HOKKAIDO CLIMATE \*average daily temperatures

April >>> 6C/43F	May >>> 11C/52F	June >>> 16C/61F	July >>> 20C/68F	August >>> 22C/72F	September >>> 17C/63F
<b>SPRING</b> Pleasant temperatures with an abundance of colors		<b>SUMMER</b> Warm days full of sunshine with temperate mornings and evenings			

<b>April</b> Keiryu Koinobori (Jozankei Hot Spring Area)	<b>May</b> Sapporo Lilac Festival (Odori Park)	<b>June</b> Hokkaido Shrine Festival (throughout the city) YOSAKOI Soran Festival (Odori Park)	<b>July</b> Toyohira River Fireworks (Toyohira River) Pacific Music Festival (Sapporo Art Park)	<b>August</b> Sapporo City Jazz (Odori Park and Sapporo Art Park) Sapporo Summer Festival (Odori Park)	<b>September</b> Dai-Don-Den! Street performances (Ekimae-dori) Sapporo Autumn Festa (Odori Park)
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## EVENTS IN SAPPORO

Academic year (first semester) begins Bachelor's Degree program entry	Golden Week University Festival	University Foundation Day (August 14) Classes end early August	Summer Vacation
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## ACADEMIC CALENDER



<b>Established</b> 1876	<b>Sapporo Campus Size</b> 180ha Equivalent to over 400 football fields
<b>Total Student Numbers</b> Approx. 18,000 12,000 undergraduates and 6,000 postgraduates	<b>International Student Numbers</b> Approx. 2,000 From around 90 countries and regions

Hokkaido University is one of the oldest, largest, and most prestigious universities in Japan. Boasting the largest number of faculties of Japan's national universities, we cover almost all areas of the humanities and social and natural sciences and we are a leader in research activities in Japan and the world. Hokkaido University alumni include a Nobel laureate, business leaders, research pioneers, artists and writers.

Our graduates benefit from the University's determination to develop curious minds that are ready to embrace challenges and acquire knowledge, reveal new global perspectives and find solutions which change society for the better.

We offer a broad-based educational experience, world-class research facilities, and all the attractions of living in the cosmopolitan city of Sapporo. The atmosphere is warm and welcoming, our campuses clean and safe, and we are located in a breathtakingly beautiful setting.

**Do you want to study in the most beautiful campus in Japan? In one of the most desirable cities in Japan? And have an amazing international student experience? - Then Hokkaido University is for you.**

October>>>10C/50F	November>>>4C/39F	December>>>-3C/27F	January>>>-6C/21F	February>>> -5C/23F	March>>>-1C/30F
<b>AUTUMN</b> All the beautiful colors of Autumn			<b>WINTER</b> Refreshing and invigorating days with sun and powdery snow		
<b>October</b>	<b>November</b>	<b>December</b>	<b>January</b>	<b>February</b>	<b>March</b>
Sapporo Marathon (downtown Sapporo) Sapporo International Short Film Festival (downtown Sapporo)	Sapporo Art Stage (throughout the city) Sapporo White Illumination (Odori Park, Ekimae-dori)	Christmas Market in Sapporo (Odori Park)	World Cup Ski-Jumping Tournament (Okurayama Ski Jump)	Sapporo Snow Festival (Odori Park)	Mt. Moiwa Ski-Ground Festival (Mt. Moiwa)
Second semester begins Intensive Japanese Course entry		New Year Break (2 weeks)		Classes restart early January	Classes end early February
				Winter Vacation Graduation ceremony	



The Modern Japanese Studies Program (MJSP) is a four-year bilingual Bachelor's Degree program, preceded by a six-month Intensive Japanese Course for those without sufficient proficiency in Japanese to enter the Bachelor's Degree program directly. MJSP gives a comprehensive education in the language and society of Japan. The program has four main characteristics:

- 1) Intensive study of the Japanese language – you should be completely fluent on graduation;**
- 2) The study of Japan in four main academic disciplines – history, cultural studies, sociology and political economy;**
- 3) Co-learning with Japanese students – you will take many classes with your Japanese peers;**
- 4) A flexible curriculum that allows you to discover your Japan from the unique and multicultural vantage point of Japan's northernmost island.**

There are two modules to choose from: **History/Culture** and **Society/Political Economy**. One module becomes your major ; the other is your minor. You start by taking intensive Japanese language courses alongside social sciences courses in English.

Once you have sufficient Japanese, you may take courses in Japanese in the faculties of Law, Letters, Education and Economics & Business Administration. **This truly bilingual degree program is the ultimate preparation for an international career related to Japan.**

## Message from the MJSP Faculty



Dr. Hironori Sasada

People from all around the world come to study on MJSP. The international atmosphere is a fascinating learning experience in itself. We are all joined, however, by our common, deep interest in Japan. There is no better place to learn about Japan than actually in Japan.

Our ambitious and defining educational aim is for all MJSP students to be able to take regular university classes in the Japanese language alongside their Japanese peers. We share our curriculum in English with Nitobe College, an international education program for students in other faculties. Extensive educational integration with the Japanese student population from the first year of the degree program is another key philosophy of MJSP.

## Intensive Japanese Course



The Modern Japanese Studies Program offers one of the most rigorous Japanese language training programs of any four-year Bachelor's Degree. You do not need to have any prior experience of studying the Japanese language to apply for MJSP, but **mastering the language sufficiently to study history, culture, society and political economy in Japanese is a requirement to graduate from MJSP.**

The Intensive Japanese Course ensures students have enough Japanese language ability on entry to the Bachelor's Degree. **People who already have intermediate level Japanese may apply for exemption from the Intensive Japanese Course.** Their Japanese language ability will be assessed in a Japanese exam taken as part of the entrance exams.

# HOW TO APPLY

## MJSP AT A GLANCE

### ■ Degree Title:

Bachelor's Degree (in the field of Japanese Studies)

### ■ Program Length:

4 years (4.5 years including the Intensive Japanese Course)

### ■ Starting Date:

October (Intensive Japanese Course + Bachelor's Degree program)  
April (Bachelor's Degree program only)

### ■ Entry Requirements:

- a) Non-Japanese nationality; permanent residency not in Japan;
- b) 12 completed years of education in a foreign country or at an approved international school in Japan OR will be at least 18 years of age and will hold a high school qualification deemed to be equivalent by the time of entrance.
- c) Mother tongue English OR four years or more of secondary education (at junior or senior high school, etc.) with English as the primary language of instruction OR English ability of IELTS (Academic Module) 6.5, TOEFL-iBT 79, TOEFL-PBT 550 or higher;
- d) Japanese ability: none for Intensive Japanese Course entry; intermediate Japanese for Bachelor's Degree entry (determined by an entrance exam); clear evidence of aptitude in foreign languages is strongly preferred;
- e) A high school academic record that would enable you to attend a leading research-intensive university in your own country.

The detailed list of entry requirements is available in the Application Guidelines published on the Modern Japanese Studies Program website.

### ■ Application Periods:

1<sup>st</sup> call: October–November  
2<sup>nd</sup> call: February

### ■ Number of Students:

20 per year

## STEPS TO ENTRY

### ☑ 1. Connect with us

Read carefully all the information on our website. Feel free to ask questions via email.

Like our official Facebook Page at

[www.facebook.com/modernjapanesestudiesprogram](http://www.facebook.com/modernjapanesestudiesprogram)

### ☑ 2. Confirm your possible start date

Applicants with intermediate Japanese can apply for April (Bachelor's Degree) entry. Exemption from the Intensive Japanese Course requires passing our Japanese entrance exam. All other applicants apply for October (Intensive Japanese Course) entry.

### ☑ 3. Apply

Submit your application online in October / November (1st call for applications) OR February (2nd call for applications) and send the required documents by post to arrive by early December (1st call) or mid-March (2nd call).

Check the Application Guidelines for the exact deadlines, which are strictly enforced. There is a ¥5,000 application fee.

### ☑ 4. Interviews

Interviews are held in January (1st call) and April (2nd call).

### ☑ 5. Accept your offer

Students who are offered a place must accept the offer by March (1st call) or June (2nd call).

### ☑ 6. Get ready for departure!

We will be in touch with a pre-departure kit to ensure you are in the know regarding such things as how to obtain a visa, accommodation placements and much more.

\*As of March 2019

**For more details visit: [www.oia.hokudai.ac.jp/mjsp](http://www.oia.hokudai.ac.jp/mjsp)**

# FEES AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Tuition fees for Intensive Japanese Course is **¥181,200 (6 months)** and for Bachelor's degree program is **¥535,800 a year**. But, we provide considerable financial support to offset the cost of your education (See the table below). Students who have not received fee waivers during the second to fourth years may apply for fee reductions of **25%, 50% and 100%**. \*correct as of March 2019

Intensive Japanese Course	1st Year	2nd-4th Year
<p>We are planning to waive the enrollment fee for the Intensive Japanese Course.</p> <p>*The course tuition fee is ¥181,200.</p>	<p>We are planning to waive the entire enrollment and tuition fees in the Modern Japanese Studies Program.</p>	<p>In the second year and thereafter, all or half of the tuition fees will be waived for selected students based on academic performance.</p> <p>* Waivers will not be available to all students.</p>



# MJSP CORE FACULTY



**Hironori Sasada**

**Society  
Political  
Economy  
Module**

I research the political economy of Japan and East Asia, particularly the Japanese economy from the Meiji period to after WWII. I am currently researching trade policies and government protection of the agricultural sector.

I lived in the United States for 15 years and have taught at the University of Washington.

I encourage students to get actively involved in class discussion.



**Emma Cook**

**Society  
Political  
Economy  
Module**

I research youth employment issues, focusing on freeters (part-time workers) in Japan and youth/popular culture. Now I am focusing on issues of health and well-being, such as physical breakdowns as a result of work.

In class I encourage discussion and student involvement based on lecture content and assigned readings. Classes also include the use of documentaries and films.



**Takayuki Ito**

**History Culture  
Module  
Japanese  
language**

My research focuses on the history and development of the Japanese language, for example, through analysis of debates in the Imperial Diet and prewar Japanese language textbooks.

I am from Sendai. I speak using the Sendai dialect that I learned from my grandmother.

I have worked as a Japanese teacher in Bangkok, Taipei and Okinawa.



**Michael Schiltz**

**History  
Culture  
Module**

I am a historian specializing in modern Japanese finance. I have published about the origins of the Bank of Japan, gold standard adoption, and the nature of Japanese financial imperialism in the colonies, spheres of influence and occupied territories before and during WWII. My latest project sheds light on the workings of exchange banks in Asia after 1873. From now on, I also plan to write about the treatment of financial matters in the press, mostly political cartoons published in satirical journals.



**Susanne Klien**

**History  
Culture Module**

My research focus is on rural Japan. My research interests include the practice and transmission of traditions in contemporary Japan, regional revitalization and demographic decline and alternative lifestyles in rural areas. Recently, I have also conducted ethnographic research into hip hop practitioners in Hokkaido. Furthermore, I have started a research project on transnational mobility of Japanese contemporary artists in Europe.

I believe that learning should not be confined to the classroom. I encourage students to explore their environment to reflect on issues we discuss in class.



**Jonathan Bull**

**History Culture  
Module**

My research is about the movement of settler colonists following the collapse of the Japanese empire. In my class we look at how former settler colonists made the transition from empire to nation-state and the ways this influenced Japanese society after 1945. I also like to use a comparative approach by thinking about forced and coerced migration in Northeast Asia in a global context.

As a teacher I encourage active learning through class discussion, group work and independent study. I look forward to meeting you!



**Tomohisa Yamada**

**History Culture  
Module  
Japanese language**

As a teacher trainer, I am interested in the development of teacher and how we can improve our teaching. After I received my MA in language education from the UCL Institute of Education, University of London, I was working at SOAS (School of Oriental and African Studies) University of London, and Saga University International Student Center as a Japanese language teacher. I came to Hokkaido University in 2012. My research areas are Second Language Acquisition, Technology and Teacher training. I am currently working on research and design of collaborative classes for Japanese and international students to investigate educational outcomes. From 2014 to 2018, I was honored as one of Hokkaido University Excellent Teachers (Academic Presentation, Global Issues as Seen from Japanese Society).

I would like to recommend to all of the students learning at MJSP course to take the "long way round." We are conditioned to do get the best results in the fastest way possible, but I would like you to take the long way, to walk on your own two feet, to see things with your own two eyes, and to think with your own mind. This may take some time, but this will broaden your future as an individual. Let's continue this discussion in the classroom!

For other members of MJSP faculty, visit the MJSP website.



## GUEST LECTURES

**The Modern Japanese Studies Program Lecture Series** is a series of guest lectures given by researchers from outside the university, or other people whose professional experience is relevant to Japanese Studies. The lectures aim to broaden students' interests in the many aspects of Japanese Studies.

There are also **MJSP Workshops**, in which the guest lecturers lead seminars or local field trips.

Roland Kelts delivers a guest lecture titled "Anime, Manga, Sushi & Cosplay: how Japan Enchants the West" as part of the MJSP lecture series.



INTENSIVE JAPANESE COURSE 6 months (October - March)	BACHELOR'S DEGREE				Credits
	1st year (April-)	2nd year (April-)	3rd year (April-)	4th year (April-)	
<b>Japanese Language</b>					41
Beginner's Japanese				Advanced applied Japanese	
<b>Japanese language</b> (beginners to intermediate)	<b>Japanese language</b> (intermediate to advanced)	<b>Applied Japanese</b> (content-based courses using intermediate level Japanese)	<b>Advanced applied Japanese</b> (Academic Japanese)	<b>Advanced applied Japanese</b> (Business Japanese)	
<b>Japanese Studies (History, Culture, Society, Political Economy)</b>					50
In English	Major/Minor Module Subjects			In Japanese	
An introduction to study skills and modern Japan	<b>Introduction to Japanese Studies I: History</b>	<b>Japanese History I-III</b> <b>Japanese Culture I-III</b> <b>Japanese Society I-III</b> <b>Japanese Political Economy I-III</b>	Major / Minor subjects taught in Japanese in the faculties of Law, Letters, Education and Economics & Business Administration		
	<b>Introduction to Japanese Studies II: Culture</b>				
	<b>Introduction to Japanese Studies III: Society</b>				
	<b>Introduction to Japanese Studies IV: Political Economy</b>	*I - Japan and the World *II - Advanced Readings *III - Japanese(History, Culture, Society, Political Economy) in Japanese			
	<b>Multiculturality in Hokkaido and Japan</b>				
	<b>Aspects of Japan:</b> Courses provided by MJSP and other faculties in English				
<b>Optional and Other Subjects</b>					15
In English		In Japanese			
<b>General education seminars:</b> Courses in English based on the research of English-speaking faculty		Internship at a company (Optional)			
<b>Intercultural exchange seminars:</b> Group-based learning with Japanese students in Japanese		Study abroad at one of Hokkaido University's partner universities (Optional)			
<b>Liberal Arts Courses/Foundation Courses</b> Optional courses taught in Japanese in other faculties (for example, in the sciences) <b>Modern Japanese Studies Workshop, etc.</b>					
<b>Individual Research</b>					22
English		and/or Japanese			
<b>Academic Writing</b>		<b>Project Study I</b>	<b>Project Study II</b>	<b>Project Study III</b>	
This is for students enrolled in 2019. Subject to change. For the most up-date information on the curriculum, visit the MJSP website.					Total 128



## INDIVIDUAL RESEARCH

About one sixth of the total credits required to complete MJSP are categorized as Project Study. Each year you can design your own research project suitable for your interests and career aims.

- **In Year 1 (Academic Writing)** learn how to structure and reference academic essays.
- **In Year 2 (Project Study I)** make an oral presentation about your research in Japanese for the first time.
- **In Year 3 (Project Study II)** be creative and showcase your growing expertise in Japan via blogs, videos or other digital formats.
- **In Year 4 (Project Study III [Graduation Thesis])** undertake a serious piece of academic research.

Receive one-on-one or small group supervision from a professor assigned to you as your supervisor based on your interests.



# STUDENT LIFE



Wearing Kimono to celebrate Coming-of-Age Day.



Learning about pop culture event management at the Toyako Manga Anime Festa.



Learning about local community revitalization through tourism during fieldwork in Shintotsukawa.



The Vietnamese food booth at the Hokkaido University festival.

## EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES



With over 250 university clubs and societies to join, there will be something to suit everyone's interest. Join one of the teams that dances in the Yosakoi Soran Festival, play in the university orchestra, go skiing in Niseko or learn a Japanese martial art. You will find that joining a club is a fascinating insight into Japanese life and culture, as well as a great place to make Japanese friends.

Becoming friends with Japanese students through club activities.





## COST OF LIVING

Sapporo has an excellent standard of living at reasonable prices compared to other cities in Japan. Your budget will depend on your lifestyle, but the table below gives a basic guide of your expected living costs while on MJSP.

Expense	Cost	Total Cost / Year	Notes
<b>Housing / Utilities</b>	¥40,000 / month	¥480,000	Budget for at least ¥40,000 per month, including bills. It may be more than this depending on your lifestyle.
<b>Study Expenses</b>	¥10,000 / month	¥120,000	Covers textbooks, photocopying, study trips and other education-related expenses.
<b>Food</b>	¥30,000 / month	¥360,000	This figure may change significantly according to personal lifestyle choices.
<b>Misc</b>	¥20,000 / month	¥240,000	Mobile phone, club activities and other optional expenditure.
<b>Total ¥1,200,000 (Estimated living expenses per year)</b>			

## STUDENT SUPPORT

Our staff will help you adapt to life in Japanese society. Things do not always go smoothly, but from the International Student Support Desk to the university's bilingual counseling service, you will always be able to turn to someone for help.



## ACCOMMODATION

MJSP students generally spend their first year in Japan living in student dormitories. The approximate cost is **¥25,000-¥30,000** per month (not including electricity, heating and water bills). Thereafter, students will find their own accommodation in Sapporo. Monthly rents are about **¥30,000-¥40,000** per month (although this may vary according to size and location).



# DISCOVER YOUR JAPAN!

## MESSAGE FROM ALUMNI



**Tai, Huay Wen**  
Singapore

Career after graduation: Mitsui O.S.K. Lines (Japan)

My 4 years at MJSP has been an extremely enriching and exciting experience. My major was the Japanese history and culture module, and I took various classes on these subjects in both Japanese and English. Studying at Hokudai in a bilingual program allowed me to build my confidence in Japanese. Living here has also helped me to experience and understand Japanese culture firsthand, as well as transition easily into Japanese working culture. Additionally, over the course of my studies, I've made countless precious memories with both international and Japanese friends, which I will treasure very much even after graduation.

**Lai, Chao Ping**

U.S.A

Career after graduation: Alphasights (Overseas)

Having completed my four years at MJSP, not only did I gain knowledge in my field and had many opportunities for research, but I also can say with confidence that my language ability has drastically improved. The wide variety of subjects and freedom to study in different disciplines allowed me to shape my education the way I want and expand my expertise. Studying through MJSP allowed me to pursue my passion and helped prepare me for the future, research-wise and career-wise.



**Ceva, Zahra Fathiya**  
Indonesia

Career after graduation:  
Research student of School  
Leadership and Professional Development,  
Tsukuba University (Japan)

MJSP gave me an opportunity to explore many different subjects and areas of discipline, which lets me finally find my strong interest. Our professors constantly encourage us to be independent learners, and they are also very supportive and are always around to guide us. After 4 years in MJSP, I felt motivated to continue my studies to be able to gain a more in-depth knowledge in my field of interest.



**Tran, Ngoc Anh**  
Vietnam

Career after graduation:  
Master student of Hokkaido University Accounting School (Japan)

I have learned and experienced so much during my four years in MJSP. The biggest advantage of the program is that you have so much freedom in choosing and experiencing various fields of study. I took many classes at the Education Faculty because of my interest in education, but also had experienced classes related to Economics, Linguistics, Sociology and Politics. After graduating from MJSP, I will continue my study at Hokkaido University Specialized Graduate School of Accounting.



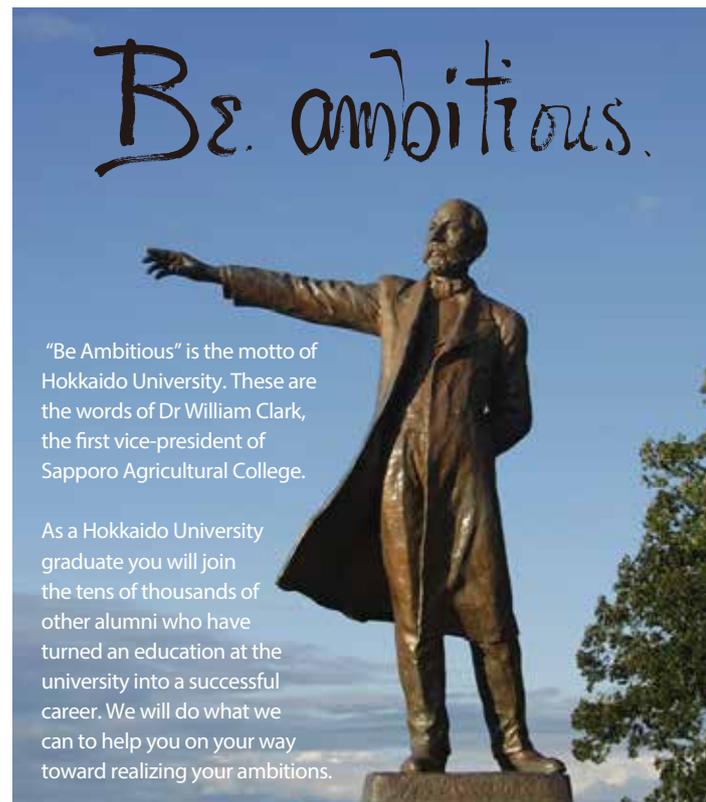
# CAREER PATHS



In the twenty-first century, Asia will increasingly take center stage in global affairs. Japan is the world's number three economy and is a regional leader in business, technology and innovation. Your bilingual and multicultural education on MJSP provides the skills for various career paths.

## Help shape the Asian century!

 <p><b>Research/ Education</b></p>	<p>Pursue postgraduate studies and a research career relating to Japan, or become a teacher in Japan or your home country.</p>
 <p><b>Business</b></p>	<p>Work for a Japanese company that actively recruits Japan-literate international staff, or an international company with operations in Japan.</p>
 <p><b>Journalism/ Tourism</b></p>	<p>People around the world want and need to know what is happening in Japan and Asia. You will be ideally qualified to show them.</p>
 <p><b>Translation/ Interpreting</b></p>	<p>Bilingualism opens up many opportunities, from subtitling films to simultaneous interpretation at conferences.</p>
 <p><b>Discover Your Own Path</b></p>	<p>With the insights and inspiration gained from your years in Japan, put into action your own vision for really making a difference.</p>



# CONTACT

## MODERN JAPANESE STUDIES PROGRAM

Institute for the Advancement of Higher Education  
Hokkaido University  
Kita 17, Nishi 8, Kita-ku, Sapporo, 060-0817

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✉ [mjsp@oia.hokudai.ac.jp](mailto:mjsp@oia.hokudai.ac.jp)

### Admission Center (for Admission Inquiry)

☎ +81-(0)11-706-8045

✉ [adm-mjsp@academic.hokudai.ac.jp](mailto:adm-mjsp@academic.hokudai.ac.jp)

 Hokkaido University's Modern Japanese Studies Program

 [www.youtube.com/HokkaidoUniv](http://www.youtube.com/HokkaidoUniv)



[www.oia.hokudai.ac.jp/mjsp](http://www.oia.hokudai.ac.jp/mjsp)



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